

# A FREIGHT CAR SHORTAGE SEEN

BABSON PREDICTS A SERIOUS FREIGHT CAR SHORTAGE THIS FALL.

Wellesley Hills, Massachusetts, July 14 1922.—During the past week Roger W. Babson has been in New York in consultation with important railway interests. He has returned believing that a freight car shortage is inevitable this fall, and everything possible should be done to prevent it. Concerning the same Mr. Babson states as follows:

"There are various events which indicate a serious congestion of freight this fall. First there is a real shortage of equipment in good condition. Thru-out the war the equipment of most railroads was allowed to run down. Little was done to repair this equipment until this year. During the past few months railroads have been endeavoring to do five years repair work in one. As a result a great many freight cars are either in the process of being repaired or are waiting to be repaired. In either case they are out of service. It is true that many of these cars will be back in service by winter, but they will not be available by fall. This means that there are fewer cars available today to haul freight than are usually available.

"Usually the railroads haul their coal during the spring and summer. The winter supply is usually delivered by the railroads during the summer months. Thus far this year very little coal has been hauled. Only immediate needs have been taken care of. Yet only two more months remain before people will be starting their furnace fires. On the assumption that the miners will soon be back to work this means that the railroads will be deluged with coal during the remainder of the year. Every available car capable of hauling coal will be pressed into service and the coal tonnage should be very, very heavy.

"The outlook today is for good crops this fall. At prevailing prices the farmers will want to sell their grain and move it at once. This means that the railroads will be called upon to move a large amount of grain while they are attempting to move the coal. There are factors which lead one to believe that manufacturing as a whole will be more active this fall than it has been at any time this year. Fundamental statistics indicate that the low point in business will be reached this summer. Thus the railroads will be taxed by hauling raw materials in general and manufactured products of all sorts."

Mr. Babson was then asked what effects such a congestion would have upon commodity prices and securities. To this he replied as follows:

"Freight car congestion inevitably leads to higher prices. This is only natural as prices are determined, not by costs, but by supply and demand.

If a city naturally uses 30 car loads of potatoes a day, any day that there is a shortage of only two or three cars, the price of all the potatoes in that city goes up. Another day when there is a surplus of only two cars, the price of all the potatoes goes down. Price is not determined by the total quantity of a product produced or consumed, but rather by that small percentage of surplus or shortage. A freight congestion this fall would inevitably lead to a shortage in certain raw materials and merchandise in some localities. As a result these commodities will temporarily strengthen in price at these points. Such a result is inevitable.

"Strengthening commodity prices are often—albeit not always—preceded by strengthening security prices. The stock market usually discounts rises in the commodity market. Thus a congestion of freight might mean both advancing commodity and security prices. Furthermore, in the case of a freight congestion, the railroads should temporarily, at least, show very handsome earnings. Already, the railroads are showing very good earnings owing to the high rates and reduced operating expenses, notwithstanding the fact that they are hauling very little freight. If the time comes when the railroads will carry 100% capacity, these earnings should be very large. Large railroads earnings should tend for higher prices for railroad securities. A word to the wise is sufficient."

General business according to the index figure of the Babson chart stands at 174 below normal the same as last week.

(Political Advertisement)



I wish to announce my candidacy for the office of sheriff of Gratiot Co. and solicit your votes at the primaries, Sept. 12, 1922. Joseph Grover.

Harold Lloyd in "Never Weaken"—Strand Sunday and Monday.

## Local News

You will find the best bread in Butter Cup wrappers 02-tfc Mrs. E. H. Wolf spent a few days resorting at Crystal this week.

Mike Hauck was in Ionia on business the latter part of last week. Harold Lloyd in "Never Weaken"—Strand Sunday and Monday.

Francis King was in Grand Rapids on business Tuesday of this week. Attorney Charles H. Goggin was in Stanton on legal business, Saturday.

Frank Vreeland of Bay City was an Alma visitor Tuesday for a few hours.

Mr. and Mrs. M. Solinski were called to Edmore Friday to attend a funeral.

President and Mrs. H. M. Crooks were Grand Rapids visitors the first of the week.

Ask your groceryman about Maple Nuts. It's something good to eat.—advertisement 58-25

Strawberry nut ice cream special this week, 40c. DeLuxe Candy Co.—advertisement.

Frank Tucker, Kenneth Wolf and Earl Medler motored to Grand Rapids, Friday.

Tanlae is a scientific triumph. Results prove it. Look-Paterson Drug Co.—advertisement.

Dr. E. G. Shyster, osteopathic physician, State Savings Bank Building, Alma, both phones. 57-4f

George Rogers of Detroit, a former resident of this city, visited with old Alma friends the first of the week.

Miss Elinor Bennet is visiting in Detroit and Grand Rapids this week, while enjoying a vacation from her work.

Mr. and Mrs. Fairman and Mr. and Mrs. Jensen of Big Rapids were Alma visitors for a few hours, Saturday.

Mrs. D. W. Robinson, Miss Mable Keene, Miss Florence and Beulah Strong are spending the week at Crystal.

W. D. Clark, who has been working in Chicago for the past year, is visiting with his father in this city for a short time.

Special, Saturday, July 22, only—entire line of voile dresses at one-half price. The Gaffney Style Shop.—advertisement.

Dr. and Mrs. R. B. Smith and Dr. and Mrs. Lehner, have returned from a two weeks tour through northern Michigan.

A. C. Luchman, superintendent of the Alma Public Schools, was in Lansing and Ann Arbor on business the latter part of last week.

Professor and Mrs. F. N. Notestein left Tuesday for Wooster, Ohio, where he will visit with his brother for the coming two months.

Special, Saturday, July 22, silk underwear, Kayser, Van Raalte and Dove lines at one-half price. The Gaffney Style Shop.—advertisement.

Mrs. Brearley, Mrs. Gaffney and Miss Vinnie Boyd attended the Business Women's meeting and banquet in Saginaw, Tuesday evening.

Malcom Wilcox of the Alma News Company left for Detroit the first of the week where he has accepted a position with one of the Detroit newspapers.

We are prepared to serve at all times light refreshments. Special dinners served on order. The Daisy Tea Room, just east of the golf course.—advertisement—61-3p

Allen Highfield of Greenville spent Sunday in Alma with friends. He will be remembered as a former Alma young man. Mr. Highfield purchased a drug store in Greenville several weeks ago.

Everybody is buying Banner records from Smith's Music Shop 55c each or two for \$1.00. Think of a 10 inch double face first class record at this price. Buy our records and spend the other 20c.—advertisement.

Hickerson, Alma College second, is now with Chittenden playing on the baseball team at Marquette. Johnson, a third member of the Michigan Intercollegiate Champs, is playing in the outfield for the Newberry team of the Copper County Industrial league. The league is not in organized baseball.

Mr. Ames of the firm of Owen, Ames & Kimball of Grand Rapids, who is to have direct supervision of the construction of the gymnasium at the college was in the city for a few days during the past week in connection with some of the preliminary work. If the railroad strike does not hinder delivery of materials it is hoped that the firm will get under way with the work within the next two weeks.

SEALED BIDS FOR THE PAVING OF PINE AVENUE.

Sealed proposals will be received up to 5 o'clock p. m. Tuesday, August 1, 1922, for the furnishing of all labor, material, tools and equipment except cement for the paving, curb and gutter, grading and draining according to the plans on file in the office of the City Clerk, of Pine Avenue from the north line of Superior Street to the north line of Walnut Street with concrete pavement according to the specifications on file, the following approximate quantities being used for the basis of bidding:

4118 yards concrete pavement.

3050 linear feet of curb and gutter.

2080 cubic yards excavation.

428 linear feet 8-inch drain in place.

4 catch basins.

27 standard inlets.

156 linear feet standard header.

A certified check in the amount of \$500.00 shall accompany each bid and all bids shall be addressed to City Manager, Alma, Mich., and marked Paving Bid.

W. E. REYNOLDS, City Manager.

60-2w.



Little Dodo Reid, six-year-old niece of Wallace Reid, the famous Moving Picture Star, who will appear as an added attraction at the Strand next Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday nights. She is said to be an unusually clever child, and has been seen on the screen in a number of big pictures, supporting such stars as Douglas Fairbanks, Mary Pickford, Gloria Swanson, Wallace Reid and others.

## EAST ALMA

Mr. and Mrs. Burton Hopkins, Highland avenue, have a baby daughter born to them Tuesday, July 11.

Mr. and Mrs. Harrell of Lansing are visiting with Mrs. Jenny Seaver.

Misses Beulah and Wanda Ziegler of Carsonville, who are attending Mt. Pleasant Normal, visited over the week end with the Allard Grove family, Elmwood avenue.

Mrs. John Ramsey, Elmwood avenue, who is in the hospital, is somewhat better.

Lawson H. Rule, who has been with the Swartout's grocery for the past two years, has a position with the Cornwall Grocery Company, Saginaw.

Misses Stitt and Trapp left Wednesday morning by way of Muskegon to their summer cottage near Bay View.

Mrs. Olive Cole, Grove avenue, has been sick and confined to bed by a severe attack of inflammatory rheumatism.

Jesse Augustine has a job working on a new school house in Lansing.

Dan Dickens, Grace avenue, has been overseeing work at Kansas City, for the Republic plant. They are putting up store rooms in various points in the country to supply truck parts needed for repairs.

The Dicker family have moved from Republic avenue to a home at the corner of Grove avenue and Eastward street.

The Rev. J. M. Gelston D. D., is preaching a series of three sermons on "Heaven". The first of the series on "Heaven: its inhabitants," was given in Eastminister chapel last Sunday at the morning service. This Sunday the second sermon on "Heaven: the place," will be delivered at 11:30 a. m. The last of the series will come on Sunday, July 30. It is a special treat to the community to hear such a man as Rev. Gelston. The parents of the Sunday school children are urged to come out Sunday morning and hear these great addresses.

Mr. and Mrs. Opal Allen were out huckleberrying and they report the bushes as loaded down with berries.

Miss Mary McIntyre has been at Gully lake near Battle Creek with a party of normal students.

Would Like to Join Film. "You're busy," I said, noticing the forceps in the dentist's hand. "I'll just take a little stroll about the village until this affair is over." "Gee, gosh," came the rueful voice from the depths of the dentist's chair where a freckle-faced lad sat gingerly fingering a swollen jaw. "I wish I could go along with ya."—Chicago Tribune

Seeing With the Hands. The inherent sense most people have of "feeling" someone in their presence in a carefully darkened room is to be nursed carefully and developed. "A totally blind man in a pitch-dark room was told to hold his hands palm upwards. Then a powerful infra-red light was turned on them. The blind man saw the light with his fingers."

## NOTICE

The city taxes are now due and payable any time from July 1 to September 14, 1922, without any penalty. From September 15 to November 1, 1922, Four (4) per cent will be added to the amount of your taxes.

Dated July 10, 1922.

D. W. ADAMS, City Treasurer

60-4f-c.

Coming  
The  
Redpath  
Chautauqua  
7 BIG DAYS 7  
The 100%  
Program

Chautauqua Week  
Here  
August 15 to 22



## CONCRETE FACTS

Many people think portland cement is portland cement, but it varies.

The mills which supply our cement have access to exceptionally good lime rock, and they make a cement of the very BEST QUALITY.

What's in your mind, cement floor, concrete walk, culvert or building? Let us know your wants and we'll see that you get the BEST material. Anybody can make good concrete if he uses good cement.

HOME LUMBER  
& FUEL Company  
PHONE ONE-NINE

## BIDS WANTED FOR SPECIAL ASSESSMENT PAVING BONDS ON PINE AVENUE.

Sealed bids will be received up to 5 o'clock p. m., Tuesday, August 1, 1922, for the sale of \$13,000.00 of special assessment paving bonds on Special Assessment Paving District No. 5 for the year 1921, being Pine Avenue. A certified check in the amount of 5% of the amount bid shall accompany each bid and bids shall be addressed to City Manager, Alma, Mich., and marked Paving Bond Bid. W. E. REYNOLDS, City Manager.

There's no excuse for getting half sick and run down when Tanlae will make you well, sturdy and strong. Look-Paterson Drug Co.—advertisement.

## The Strand

THURSDAY and FRIDAY

William DeMille  
Presents

"Miss Lulu Bett"

SATURDAY

Hobart Bosworth

—in—

"The Sea Lion"

Christie Comedy

SUNDAY and MONDAY

HAROLD LLOYD

—in—

"Never Weaken"

Shown with  
Grace Darmond

—in—

"Handle With Care"

TUESDAY and WEDNESDAY

POLA NEGRI

—in—

"The Last Payment"

COMING

Mabel Normand

—in—

"MOLLY O!"

## You Know It's Good

If It Comes From This Store

No groceries of indifferent quality are allowed in our stock. Our quality standards are high, and our inspection of all goods is thorough. Before any line is added to our stock it must answer to these exacting requirements.

## EICHENBERG & CO.

Alma's Largest Grocery

## SPECIAL

Low  
Reduced Prices  
on  
Vudor Ventilating  
Porch Shades

Get Our New  
Prices on  
Straight,  
Step and Extension Ladders

## LADDERS

EARL C. CLAPP

THE WINCHESTER STORE

## Lower Prices

Easy to Select

Easy to Pay

## On Furniture

THE high price of furniture is a thing of the past. Prices have been greatly reduced, and buying is much easier for all classes.

WE are right in the van of the low price movement in this community, with a new stock of furniture such as is seldom seen hereabouts.

Today You Can Fit Out or Refurnish Your Home at Very Modest Expense.

## Crandell & Scott

FURNITURE

UNDERTAKING